

Introduced by Senator Chesbro

January 16, 2004

An act to add Section 5080 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1133, as introduced, Chesbro. Vehicles: special interest license plates: California museums.

Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue special interest license plates to any person applying for the plates and paying certain fees. The plates contain a distinct design or decal of the participating organization and may be displayed in lieu of regular license plates. Existing law imposes certain design criteria on the plates and prohibits the department from issuing any special interest license plate until the participating organization has received and submitted to the department not less than 7,500 applications for that particular plate within certain time limitations.

This bill would require the department, in consultation with the California Association of Museums, to design and make available for issuance, in accordance with existing law, special interest license plates with a specified design. The bill would require certain funds generated from the issuance of the special interest license plates to be deposited in the California Museum License Plate Account, which the bill would establish in the General Fund. The bill would require the money in the account to be allocated by the Controller, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the California Association of Museums for the purpose of assisting California Museums in the enhancement of their public services.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5080 is added to the Vehicle Code, to
2 read:
3 5080. (a) (1) The department, in consultation with the
4 California Association of Museums, shall design and make
5 available for issuance special license plates bearing a design that
6 includes all of the following:
7 (A) The image of “Snoopy,” a character in the “Peanuts”
8 comic strip by Charles M. Schulz, copyrighted by United Feature
9 Syndicate, Incorporated.
10 (B) The logo of the Charles M. Schulz Museum.
11 (C) The words, “Visit a Museum Today!”
12 (2) The issuance and design of the plate shall conform with
13 Section 5060.
14 (3) A person described in Section 5101, upon payment of the
15 additional fee set forth in subdivision (b), may apply for and be
16 issued a set of special interest license plates described in this
17 subdivision.
18 (b) In addition to the regular fees for an original registration, a
19 renewal of registration, or a transfer or replacement of the license
20 plates, the following additional fees shall be paid for the issuance,
21 renewal, retention, transfer, or replacement of the special interest
22 license plates authorized under subdivision (a):
23 (1) For the original issuance of the plates, thirty-five dollars
24 (\$35).
25 (2) For a renewal of registration of the plates, or retention of the
26 plates if renewal is not required, twenty dollars (\$20).
27 (3) For transfer of the plates to another vehicle, twenty dollars
28 (\$20).
29 (4) For each replacement plate, twenty dollars (\$20).
30 (5) In addition, for the issuance of an environmental license
31 plate, as defined in Section 5103, the additional fees prescribed in
32 Sections 5106 and 5108, which shall be deposited in the
33 Environmental License Plate Fund.
34 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (5) of subdivision (b), the
35 department, after deducting its costs for administering this section,
36 shall deposit the additional revenue derived under this section in
37 the California Museum License Plate Account, which is hereby
38 established in the General Fund.

1 (d) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the money in the
2 account shall be allocated by the Controller to the California
3 Association of Museums for the purpose of assisting California
4 museums in the enhancement of their public services.

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